

Elvis Saw a Long Life

Ex-Sweetie Hits Death Talk

By HARRY STATHOS

The former beauty queen who had lived with Elvis Presley for five years until they broke up a few months before he died brands as nonsense reports that he foresaw his death at 42 — the age at which his mother died in 1958.

Linda Thompson, 25, says she told Presley just a few months ago: "You need to take better care of yourself. You know, you're not immortal."

"Ah, don't worry about me," Elvis replied. "I'm going to live a long time. There's a lot for me to do yet."

In an interview with People magazine this week, Linda reveals previously undisclosed details surrounding Presley's death, including the fact that he was found dead in his bathroom with a book beside him relating the supposed discovery of Jesus Christ's skeleton.

Refutes Bodyguards

Linda says that the portrait of Elvis as a pill-popping, pistol-packing womanizer, painted by three former bodyguards in a new book, is "horribly overexaggerated."

"Elvis never even drank or smoked," she insists.

While admitting Elvis took sleeping pills and amphetamines on occasion, his personal physician, Dr. George Nichopoulos of Memphis, said that Elvis "was not abusing drugs."

The strength of his fundamentalist mother's hold on him would not seem to have allowed it.

"She always told him to marry a brown-eyed woman — they were more loyal," the brown-eyed Linda says. "Maybe because I was a Southern girl, I reminded him of his mother."

Hated Hard Rock

Elvis hated the hard rock he helped make possible and blue-jeans — "field clothes," the Mississippi-born poor boy called them — and he loved his long-dead mother more than anything in his life.

Linda was a 20-year-old beauty queen — she got as far as Miss Tennessee in the Miss U.S.A. contest — when she met Presley and began living with him.

"We were together almost 24 hours a day," she recalled. "He was a super-romantic — he showers you with gifts and loving little gestures and pet names. He was very manly, very powerful, and he would put you in your place if you needed it. But



**Linda Thompson
Says it isn't so**

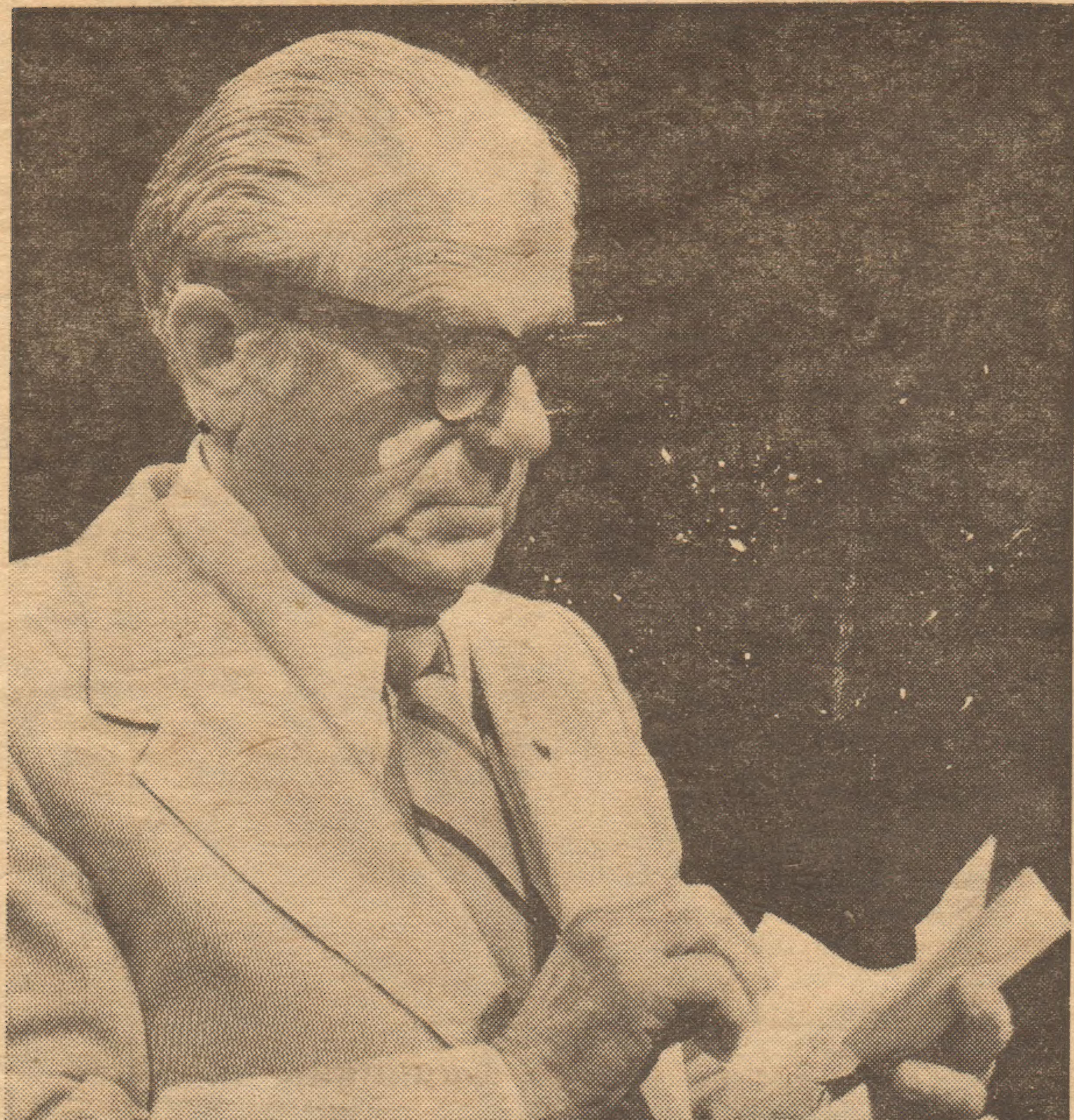
he was every woman's dream in every way."

Linda says women always asked her what his kiss was really like. Her answer: "Real good."

She says Elvis felt no embarrassment over his riches and once told her: "If God didn't want me to have these things, I wouldn't have them."

As for his carousing with other women while insisting that she be faithful, Linda says: "He needed and wanted more love than anyone I've ever met. I lived with that as long as I could."

Abe: I'd Do It Again



News photo by Jack Smith

Mayor Beame looks over his notes before yesterday's TV appearance.

Honest, Abe! No Politics

By JOSEPH VOLZ and BRUCE DRAKE

Washington (News Bureau)—Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.), chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, yesterday disputed Mayor Beame's charge that the Securities and Exchange Commission's report critical of New York City's finances was politically motivated.

Proxmire, who frequently criticizes regulatory agencies for being too lax in enforcement, said that the commission was among "the best regulatory agencies we have."

The commission charged on Friday that Beame, Controller Harrison Goldin and the city's six major banks "misled public investors" by giving the city a clean bill of health when the city, in fact, owed more than a billion dollars.

Beame has charged that the commission did a "hatchet job" on him in the report and rushed to publish it just two weeks before the Sept. 8 mayoral primary.

Proxmire, interviewed on CBS television's "Face the Nation," said the report, as filed with Attorney General Griffin Bell, did not include any recom-

sale of New York bonds and notes. While admitting that municipal securities did not have to be registered with the commission, the federal officials cited as the basis for their action the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 which makes it a violation to use any manipulative or deceptive device in connection with the sale of securities.

Some knowledgeable observers here believe that commission enforcement officials wanted to make clear their right to investigate the municipal securities field and that one of their goals in investigating New York was to show the need for giving the regulatory agency a free hand. Some who have questioned the commission's jurisdiction in this case — include Mayor Beame, who